

JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Monday - 25 November 1968

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1. [REDACTED] Called Chairman L. Mendel Rivers, House Armed Services Committee; Mr. J. Russell Blandford, Chief Counsel, House Armed Services Committee; Mr. Robert Michaels, Staff Assistant, House Appropriations Committee; Mr. Edward Braswell, Professional Staff Member, Senate Armed Services Committee; and Miss Dorothy Fosdick, Staff Director, Subcommittee on National Security and International Operations, to inform each that concern regarding Romania, on which I briefed them on 22 November, had subsided.

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2. [REDACTED] In the course of the above mentioned phone conversation with Chairman Rivers, he said that it occurred to him that the recent hijacking of American aircraft might have been inspired by Castro as a means of clandestinely obtaining U.S. currency. I said I was aware of no evidence to this effect but would investigate and confirm.

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3. [REDACTED] Scott Cohen, on the staff of Senator Charles H. Percy (R., Ill.), called to say that, in connection with his appointment to the Committee on Government Operations, Senator Percy has asked Cohen to contact various "foreign policy agencies" to arrange briefings for his personal staff members so they might become more knowledgeable in this field. He said the Senator had specifically mentioned CIA. I suggested to Cohen that he exclude us from this kind of arrangement for a variety of reasons (which Cohen understood) but added that we still stood ready to brief the Senator or him on specific situations more within our area of responsibility. Cohen thanked me and said he agreed completely with our position. (See Memo for the Record for details).

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5. [REDACTED] In response to her request, hand carried to Judith Spahr, on the staff of the Subcommittee on National Security and International Operations, a copy of the [REDACTED] containing the text of the Brezhnev speech given earlier this month.

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6. [REDACTED] Mr. Vincent J. Augliere, on the staff of the Subcommittee on Foreign Operations and Government Information, called concerning a request that Chairman Moss had received from a group of college students who will be debating other colleges. Augliere would like a reference to an official or authoritative statement which would indicate that CIA does not interfere in the internal affairs of foreign governments without the approval of appropriate authority, such as the President, the National Security Council or the Secretary of State. Augliere felt this was a point which would come up again and again in student debates and felt it would be useful to put the matter to rest with an authoritative response if this could be done. I told him I would look into this and would be in touch with him.

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7. [REDACTED] Dr. James Lucier, on the staff of Senator Strom Thurmond (R., S. C.), called and asked if we had any printed material which contained a description of the official functions of this Agency which he might pass on to a constituent. I suggested that we provide him with several copies of the Agency pamphlet. Lucier said this sounded like precisely what he needed and copies are being sent to him.

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8. [REDACTED] Received a call from Mr. Herb Ressing who identified himself as being with the President's Commission on Pennsylvania Avenue. He said he was interested in speaking with someone who was most up-to-date on aerial photography of downtown Washington, D.C. I told Mr. Ressing this was not a responsibility of CIA and (after checking with Mr. Goodwin) suggested that he direct his inquiry to the office of Mr. Phil C. Goulding, Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Office of the Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs). Mr. Ressing thanked me for this information.

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[REDACTED]  
Legislative Counsel ✓

cc:

Ex/Dir-Compt

O/DDCI DD/I DD/S DD/S&T

[REDACTED]  
Mr. Houston  
Mr. Goodwin